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DE RUHMTI #1185 210121Z
ZNY SSSSS ZZK
R 291120Z JUL 79
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 6992
INFO RUSSGD/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 084
RUSBLK/AMEMBASSY KABUL 034
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 592
RUGHHR/AMEMBASSY TEHRAN 533
BT
SECRET TRIPOLI 1185

E.O. 12851 XDS-1 7/29/99 (HOOPER, JAMES R.) OR-P
TAGS: PEPR, LY, AF
SUBJECT: (S) LIBYAN SUPPORT FOR AFGHAN REVOLUTIONARIES

1. (S - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. LIBYAN FOREIGN SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL HAS INFORMED US "CONFIDENTIALLY" THAT THE JAMAHIRIYAH IS PROVIDING SUPPORT TO MUSLIM REVOLUTIONARIES IN AFGHANISTAN. ASKED IF SUPPORT INCLUDED TRAINING FOR ANTI-TARAKI REBELS, SOURCE SAID THAT, WHILE LIBYANS HAVE CONTRIBUTED "QUARTER OF A MILLION DOLLARS" IN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, HE WAS UNAWARE THAT TRAINING FACILITIES WERE BEING OFFERED TO THE REBELS.

3. THE OFFICIAL RECALLED THAT LIBYAN DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH KABUL HAD BEEN "FROZEN" WHEN THE RED FLAGS WERE UNFURLED AFTER THE REVOLUTION AND THE NEW REGIME'S MARXIST ORIENTATION BECAME APPARENT. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT LIBYAN ASSISTANCE TO THE REBELS, FURTHERMORE, WAS A RATHER DELICATE SUBJECT IN CONTEXT OF TRIPOLI-MOSCOW RELATIONSHIP. THIS IN PART ACCOUNTED FOR RELATIVELY MODEST ATTENTION DEVOTED TO AFGHANISTAN BY LIBYAN MEDIA.

4. COMMENT: AT A TIME WHEN LIBYANS ARE PUBLICIZING THEIR SUPPORT FOR SANDANISTAS AND NEW NICARAGUAN GOVERNMENT, TRIPOLI'S COMMITMENT TO AFGHANI REBELS IS A USEFUL REMINDER THAT THE JAMAHIRIYAH'S REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES REFLECT SOME DEGREE OF CONSISTENCY. EVEN SOVIET CLIENT STATES ARE NOT EXEMPT FROM LIBYAN EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF NATIONAL LIBERATION GROUPS.

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